

Appl. No. 10/014,541
Amendment dated: September 11, 2003
Reply to OA of: August 15, 2003

REMARKS

The Official Action urges that claim 9 is a generic claim to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising (1) polyester, (2) polyolefin, (3) paper, (4) metal foil, (5) polyvinyl chloride film, and (6) cloth. In accordance with the requirement in the Official Action, Applicant elects species (2) polyolefin. This election is made with traverse.

Claim 9 is a generic claim and therefore readable on the elected invention. Claim 10 is a sub-generic claim also readable on the elected invention as is claim 12. Claim 15 has been added to the application directed to the flexible film base which is a polyolefin and is readable on the elected invention.

Applicant most respectfully submits that as described in the present application and as would be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art, the flexible film base can be any of the number of different flexible films which are therefore not patentably distinct. Claim 9 is a generic claim and the various species as identified in Example 10 should be included with the allowable claim as these represent a reasonable number of species with respect to the generic invention.

This is especially true with respect to polyolefin, polyester and polyvinyl chloride which are closely related compounds. It is to be noted that one of ordinary skill in the art would appreciate that these specific three species are often used to produce thin films. Moreover, paper, thin metal foil and cloth are materials used in wall decorations, barbecue and everyday life. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that the requirement be withdrawn and all the claims examined on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,
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